

Minutes of Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting of April 5, 2010

Attendees: Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District
Drew McIntyre, North Marin Water District
Krishna Kumar, Valley of the Moon Water District
Damien O’Bid, City of Cotati
Steve Simmons, City of Petaluma
Darrin Jenkins, City of Rohnert Park
Susan Gorin, City of Santa Rosa
Miles Ferris, City of Santa Rosa
Glen Wright, City of Santa Rosa
Greg Scoles, City of Santa Rosa
Toni Bertolero, City of Sonoma
Richard Burt, Town of Windsor
Paul Helliker, Marin Municipal Water District
Grant Davis, SCWA
Pamela Jeane, SCWA
Matt Vail, SCWA
Michael Thompson, SCWA
Diane Lesko, SCWA
Brad Sherwood, SCWA
Jay Jasperse, SCWA
Carrie Pollard
Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa
Dave Smith, City of Santa Rosa
Janet Reisner, City of Santa Rosa

Public Attendees: Brenda Adelman, RRWPC
David Keller, FOER
John Rosenblum
J. Dietrich Stroeh, Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group
Bob Anderson, United Wine Growers
Dawna Gallagher
Jane Nielson, SWIG, SCWC
Colleen Fernald
Tom Gorman, Kennedy/Jenks

1. Check In:

TAC Chairperson, Chris DeGabriele, called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. The attendees checked in.

2. Public Comment

Brenda Adelman wanted to know if there is an overall plan for earthquakes and if it is in writing. Chris DeGabriele stated that all contractors have emergency operation plans, coordinated through an emergency response network (California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network) and individual contractors have this information on their websites. Paul Helliker, MMWD, said there is also excellent information on the website, 72hours.org.

3. Term 17 Water Conservation Plan

The draft of the Term 17 final report was distributed on 4/2/10. It will be on the SCWA website.

Brenda Adelman made a comment that all contractors except for one made an attempt to address the turf issue. She encouraged them to give more information and details. Paul Helliker and Grant Davis commended the team on the excellent job they did on the report.

4. Temporary Urgency Change Petition

Pam Jeane, SCWA, discussed the Petition for Temporary Urgency change. She advised the committee that it is a draft at this point. The petition asks for a change in the Russian River flows in accordance with the Biological Opinion.

Paul Helliker said they are strongly recommending to the State Board not to quickly act on this.

Public Comments – Brenda Adelman said she has deep concerns because her community is documenting large amounts of algae in the water. Chris DeGabriele advised her that her concerns are noted and said the requested flow changes are prescriptive pursuant to the Biological Opinion. Miles Ferris voiced concern over the inability to build a treatment facility to address failing septic systems in that area. He asked whether a septic analysis has been done. Brenda responded that her community wants access to this information and has been told they would never get it.

5. 2010 Russian River Water Storage

Storage in Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma is great. It is looking like it will be normal year conditions.

6. Water Supply Coordinating Council

Chris presented the summary of the Council meeting on 3/22/10. No public comment regarding this item.

7. Draft Water Supply Strategy Action Plan

Jay Jasperse, SCWA gave a PowerPoint on the Water Supply Strategy Action Plan. The presentation included information on background, general information, challenges and

the 12 Water Supply Strategies. This is a draft plan and SCWA would like to get TAC and stakeholder input prior to April 14th in advance of the May 3rd WAC meeting. Discussion ensued regarding understanding of the format. Greg Scoles said that the TAC stated the highest priority was to restore reliability of current water supply and current transmission system capacity. He asked how this fit into the strategies. Jay said that Priority A is included in most of the strategies. Toni Bertolero agreed with the City of Santa Rosa's comments. She said it would be helpful if SCWA could address each comment in EIR form and address the 11/2/09 memo by the TAC point by point. Jay responded that this couldn't be done by May 3rd. Toni asked that it be shared in a written document. Paul Helliker said that SCWA has identified challenges and strategies but the contractors would like to know what the specific goals are. He asked how the strategies meet each of the goals. Paul Helliker said Strategy Eleven doesn't really address the Restructured Agreement renegotiation. He asked if it could be reworded.

Public Comment –Brenda Adelman asked if the low flows impact the system. Jay said the flows will affect the system and the system operation will have to change.

Chris DeGabriele asked what was meant by adding the water contractor action/projects to enhance the document. Jays said the Agency wants to know how each contractor's actions in water conservation, recycled water enhances the plan. Jay said the Board has committed to support these activities.

SCWA said an electronic copy will be distributed to the mailing list. Grant said they want to get feedback to see if they can identify projects they can try to get funds to support and implement. Paul Helliker asked about the automated meter reading in Santa Rosa, Cotati and Rohnert Park. Jay said SCWA is getting automated meters on turnouts for these 3 contractors.

Grant asked for public comments. David Keller said he believes these are good step by step plans. He asked when it would be posted. Grant said it would be posted today. Colleen Fernald said that if these Automated Meter Readers are anything like the PGE smart meters there will be a huge backlash. Donna Gallagher said she appreciates that the plan is easy to understand. Brenda Adelman said she realizes the Agency needs to focus on contractors but everything has an impact on the lower river and recreation. She would like to see that put in here.

8. Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership

This partnership has been in limbo as the City of Santa Rosa and Petaluma have had issues with the agreement. Santa Rosa has submitted comments and Chris asked Petaluma get their comments back to him.

9. UWMP 2010 Path Forward

Consultant Maddous is working with contractors. Jennifer Burke, Santa Rosa, will be sending out clarifying questions by Friday. The next meeting will be held in June.

10. Biological Opinion Status Update

Matt Vail provided updates on the following items in regards to the Biological Opinion: D1610 Change Petition and public outreach as well as modifications and enhancements

to Estuary, Dry Creek and Mirabel-Wohler. Glen Wright, City of Santa Rosa, asked if the demonstration project is on schedule and Chris DeGabriele asked if this satisfies the 1st mile of habitat improvement pursuant to the Biological Opinion.

Colleen Fernald asked for more specifics on the Dry Creek Demonstration Project. Matt said the intent is to slow down flows for fish habitat and logs, boulders and channels may be used. Brenda Adelman asked if the deadline for the final protest is May 13th for changes and Pam Jeanne responded that it is. Brenda said she read in the news that there will be construction in the Estuary in a week. Matt said he is unaware of actual construction, that there will just be a breach of the channel, no actual structures. Grant Davis said he will bring in Jessica Martini-Lamb to provide updates at a future meeting. Brenda asked about the status of the USGS study on water quality. Jay Jasperse said they are trying to get an update on this. Brenda said she is concerned that this work might move forward prior to the study and that public protest might be cut off.

11. Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be a WAC meeting held on May 3, 2010. There will be an update on the Temporary Urgency Change Petition. Richard Burtt asked for any follow up regarding the budget. Grant said the Board will have taken action by then as their meeting will be on April 20th.

12. Check Out

There being no further items for check out, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15.